

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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August 19, 2010

To:

Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

This memorandum contains an update on the State Budget and status reports on eight County-advocacy measures related to: 1) designation of blighted areas; 2) sex crimes committed against minors; 3) pension reform and retirement benefits for public employees; 4) presumption of eligibility to workers' compensation for retired public safety officers; 5) administration and licensing of traffic violator schools; 6) repeal of the January 1, 2011 sunset date to permanently require that notices be given to tenants and public entities upon termination of housing subsidy programs; 7) allowing public hospitals to conduct internal reviews for Treatment Authorization Requests; and 8) compensation for retirees.

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## State Budget

On August 18, 2010, the State Controller John Chiang announced that he will be forced to issue registered warrants (also known as IOUs) in two to four weeks, if the Governor and the Legislature do not act quickly to adopt a budget which addresses the State's cash shortfall. Seven weeks have passed since the start of the 2010-11 fiscal year and negotiations to address the \$19.1 billion State Budget deficit remain stalled. The Governor and the four Legislative leaders, known as the Big-Five, have not met since mid-June.

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## Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

**County-opposed AB 1641 (Hall),** which as amended on August 9, 2010, would establish that blighted areas may be characterized by the existence of housing constructed as a government-owned housing project constructed prior to January 1, 1960, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 21 to 13 on August 18, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly for concurrence in Senate amendments.

**County-supported AB 1844 (Fletcher),** which as amended on August 2, 2010, would increase penalties for forcible sex acts against minors, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 11 to 0 on August 12, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-opposed-unless-amended AB 1987 (Ma), which as amended on August 12, 2010, would place limits on compensation salaries and impose a waiting period upon employers prior to re-hiring a retiree, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee with amendments by a vote of 11 to 1 on August 12, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Senate Floor.

County-opposed AB 2253 (Coto), which as amended on May 28, 2010, would extend the time period after termination of employment that a retired public safety officer may file a workers' compensation claim for job-related cancer benefits to 10 years, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 25 to 9 vote on August 18, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

County-opposed-unless-amended AB 2499 (Portantino), which as amended on August 5, 2010, would revise the administration and licensing by the Department of Motor Vehicles of traffic violator schools and would limit a court from contracting with a Court Assistance Program to perform services related to the processing and monitoring of traffic violator schools, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 22 to 8 on August 18, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly for concurrence in Senate amendments.

County-supported SB 454 (Lowenthal), which as amended on May 27, 2010, would repeal the January 1, 2011 sunset date to permanently: 1) require an owner of affordable housing to provide written notice to the affected tenant households and to the affected public entities before converting a property to market rate housing; 2) require an affordable housing owner to give limited priority to purchase the property to tenants and public entities; and 3) provide an exemption from the notice requirements if specified conditions are contained in a regulatory agreement recorded against the property, passed Assembly Floor by a vote of 65 to 9 on August 16, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Senate for concurrence in Assembly amendments.

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County-supported SB 1236 (Alquist), which as amended on June 10, 2010, would allow public hospitals that use county funds to draw down matching Federal funds to conduct internal reviews of Treatment Authorization Requests, was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 12, 2010 due to potential costs to the State.

County-opposed-unless-amended SB 1425 (Simitian), which as amended on May 4, 2010, would revise the definition of creditable compensation and establish a waiting period for employers to re-hire a retiree, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a vote of 12 to 0 on August 12, 2010. This measure now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:VE:sb

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants